

the CHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

July 1996

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NEWSLETTER
EDITOR
Ted M. Darden

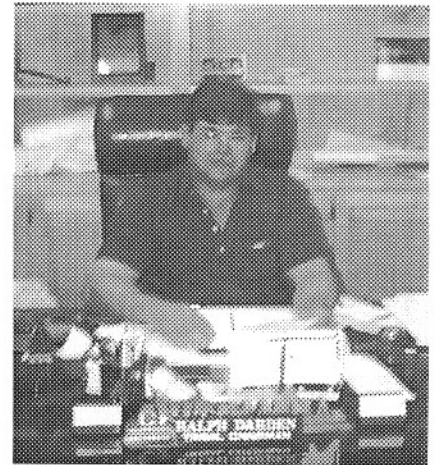
SPECIAL
CONSULTANT
Allan VonWerder

"SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA"

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Dear Fellow Tribal Members:

It appears that a dark cloud is hanging over our community as many of our people are making their way to their final resting place. This past year has been extremely painful for many of our families that have suffered the loss of a loved one. As most of you know, Martha Butaud passed away on June 5th. Martha worked for the Inter-Tribal Council for years and recently retired. She ran the J.T.P.A. program and the A.O.A. program here on the reservation at the old Drop-In center. She lived long enough to see a dream of hers come true, that being the new Senior Center, but never really lived long enough to enjoy it the way she deserved to enjoy it. On early morning of June 17th, I left to go to a USET meeting in Bangor Maine and upon arrival there, I heard the bad news that J.D. Marcotte had passed away. J.D. raised five children and spent the most part of his working days on boats as I knew him. I also knew him as a man of few words, but when he spoke, it was with honesty and kindness. On the morning of June 25th, Rosalyn McCoy, Cultural Director, was found deceased at her office. She was a native of the Detroit Michigan area and has left behind one son. A short visitation period was held at Ibert's in Franklin, then, her body was sent back to Michigan to her final resting place. To all of these families who have recently lost a loved one, I wish to express my sincere condolences and pray that you are given the strength to cope with the heartaches that you now bear.

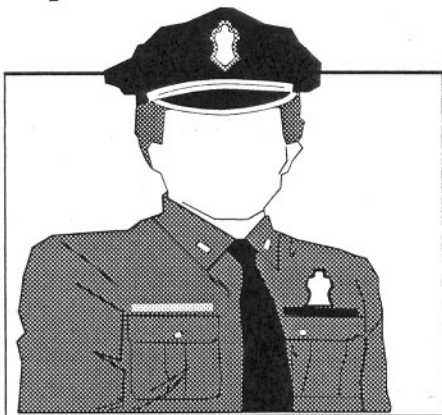


Chairman Ralph C. Darden

U.S.E.T. - The Tribal Council, along with some program directors attended the Semi-Annual U.S.E.T. meeting in Maine the week of June 17th. As usual, everything that was presented was negative and disheartening to listen to. The only bit of hope was a \$700,000 increase in health dollars for next year, however, by the time that is divided amongst the tribes, it will not amount to much. The Office of Trust Funds Management was there to defend themselves against recent news articles that said over 2 billion dollars was

(See CHAIRMAN, Page 10)

Kop's Korner™



**News from the Chitimacha P.D.
Frank McCloskey, Police Chief**

JUNE 1996

To date, for the month of June, the department issued six traffic citations for violations ranging from driving without insurance, careless driving, running a stop sign, speeding, no seat belt and expired driver's license. Five arrests were logged on the following charges, driving under suspension, disturbing the peace intoxicated, resisting an officer, driving while intoxicated and remaining where forbidden.

Over the past few months, there has been an increased number of reports from residents, both on and off the reservation, filing complaints of valuables missing from their vehicles or evidence of their vehicles being searched. The department has increased spot-checks to the residential areas but would also like to encourage residents not to leave valuables in their vehicles and to make sure vehicle doors are locked. Report any suspicious activity to the police department immediately.

After sixteen weeks of training, Office Assistant, Ellen Hebert, graduated from the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Department 28th Basic Training Law Enforcement Academy, on June 11, 1996. Ellen is now certified as a police officer through the State of Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training Council.

From June 12 to 14, 1996, Officer Blaise Smith and Dispatcher Beth Boudreaux attended a Street Survival seminar in San Antonio, Texas. The seminar focuses on officer's safety and survival and gives detailed information concerning officers reactions to dangerous and deadly situations involving guns, knives and other deadly weapons. Those in attendance viewed actual videos of traffic stops showing how a seemingly routine event can turn into a violent and sometimes fatal situation for officers. They also viewed videos of taped interviews with officers who have survived violent attacks and now send the message to other law enforcement officials on how to survive and expect the unexpected. Videos were also shown of bank robberies, hostage situations and other tense situations, giving outlines of what to do if ever faced with similar situations.

From June 18 to 20, Chief McCloskey attended a USET meeting in Bangor, Maine, with various other tribal law enforcement and court personnel, to discuss jurisdictional problems, cross-deputization, and the state role in casino gaming issues. A short presentation was given by a member of the U.S. Customs, on

smuggling and false Native American tribal ID cards.

SAFE AND SOBER CAMPAIGN

Just a reminder that the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC) is sponsoring the "Buckle Up Or Feel The Heat" Safe and Sober Overtime Enforcement Campaign during the 4th of July Weekend. The Safe and Sober Campaign is credited with helping increase the safety belt use rate in Louisiana. This campaign also provides additional patrols for alcohol and speed enforcement.

As part of this 4th of July campaign, the LHSC and the Louisiana Travel Promotion Association have developed "Savings and Safe Driving" coupon booklets. Motorists stopping at Tourist Information Centers and Rest Stops will be given these coupon booklets to promote safety and tourism in Louisiana. These booklets contain discount coupons for products and services from various businesses throughout the state. Chitimacha police officers will also be handing out these coupon booklets to promote safe driving on the reservation and surrounding area. "Louisiana is currently a leader in safety belt enforcement in the United States," said LHSC Executive Director James E. Champagne. "People understand that not only is buckling up the law, but it is one of the most important actions you can take to keep you and your family healthy.

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2)
"WHAT POLICE ARE MADE OF"

By Nationally Syndicated
Columnist, Paul Harvey

Don't credit me with this mongrel prose. It has many parents--at least 535,000 of them. They are policemen.

A policeman is a composite of what all men are--a mingling of saint and sinner, dust and deity.

Culled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers and underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are "news." What this really means is that they are exceptional and unusual, not commonplace. Buried under the froth is this fact: Less than one half of 1 percent of policemen misfit that uniform. That's a better average than you'd find among clergymen.

What is a policeman made of? He, of all men, is at once the most needed and the most unwanted.

He's a strangely nameless creature who is "sir" to his face and "the fuzz" behind his back. He must be a diplomat so that he can settle differences between individuals in a way that each will think he won.

But, if the policeman is neat, he's conceited. If he's careless, he's a bum. If he's pleasant, he's a flirt. If he's not, he's a grouch.

In an instant, he must make decisions that would require months for a lawyer. But if he hurries, he's careless--if he's deliberate, he's lazy.

He must be first to an accident and infallible with a diagnosis. He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie splints and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp. Or, he must expect to be sued.

The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run and hit where it doesn't hurt. He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being "brutal." If you hit him, he's a coward--if he hits you, he's a bully.

A policeman must know everything and not tell. He must know where all the sin is and not partake.

The policeman must, from a single human hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal--and tell you where the criminal is hiding. But if he catches the criminal, he's lucky--if he doesn't, he's a dunce.

If he gets promoted, he has political pull. If he doesn't, he's a dullard.

The policeman must chase bum leads to dead ends and stakeout 10 nights to tag one witness who saw it happen but refuses to remember.

He runs files and writes reports until his eyes ache--all in order to build a case against some felon who'll get dealt-out by a shameless shamus or an "honorable" who isn't.

The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy and a gentleman.

And, of course, he has to be a genius, for he has to feed a family on a policeman's salary.

Environmental Health By: Lou Martin

From June to November is hurricane season. When your area receives a hurricane warning:

- 1). Leave low-lying areas.
- 2). Protect your windows with boards or tape.
- 3). Secure outdoor objects or take them indoors.
- 4). Fuel up your vehicle.
- 5). Save several days water supply.
- 6). Leave mobil homes for more substantial shelter.
- 7). Stay indoors during hurricane.

The Chitimacha Tribal School is a hurricane shelter. If you go to the shelter, you should bring: pillow, sheets, blankets, any medication that you may be taking, bottle water, dry or canned food, flashlight and battery radio. **DO NOT BRING PETS!!!** If you choose to stay home, let the Police Department know your intentions. If you leave town, have plenty of fuel in your vehicle and plan to leave early.



By Peggy Gaddy, RN,
Health Director

1996 Health Program Budget

The budget for the Health Program for 1996 is \$653,698 for total direct costs. As of May 31, 1996, the balance of unexpended funds is \$389,009.61. This balance does not include funds that have been obligated for medical bills but not yet paid. The good news is that we should have enough carryover from 1995 to get us through the year without having to go on Priority I status or get supplemental funding from the Tribe. However, each year it becomes more apparent that the rate of funding increases does not keep up with inflation of health care costs and our population increase. We are having to look for alternatives to deliver health in a more cost effective way. For some of those ways, please read below.

Evaluation Grant

The Health Program has applied for two grants, one from the Office of Planning, Evaluation and Legislation (OPEL) and the other from HHS (Tribal Management Grant). Both grants were written with the same purpose in mind in hopes that we get at least one of them funded. The purpose is to evaluate the health program, with the expertise of a consultant, to determine the most cost effective means of providing health care to the eligible members. We will be notified in August on both of these as to whether or not we were funded.

Self-Governance Planning Grant

We received notification during the latter part of May that we were funded for the Self-Governance Planning Grant that we applied for through HHS. This grant is for **\$50,000** for the purpose of obtaining needed information from the IHS in order to make a determination if it would be beneficial for the Health Program to become a Title III Self-Governance Program under P.L. 104-413. Self-governance is a method for allowing Tribes to make more of their own decisions at the local level by bypassing the Nashville

Area Office and receiving a larger share of the financial pie. The grant is to determine if the responsibilities that accompany this program is worth the extra funding. We will keep you informed as we find out more information.

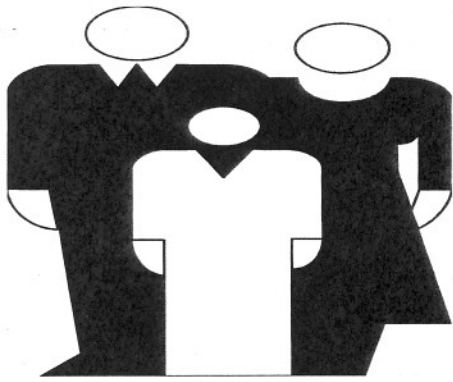
Nutrition

Pat Schumaker, RD, Nashville Area Office will be visiting the AOA Program on July 9th. She will be talking to the participants about nutrition as it relates to diabetes and hypertension. She will also be going over important information about diets with the cooks.

The Health & Human Services Department would like to welcome Carlie Soprano, our new JPTA Worker, aboard. Carlie is the person who has been answering the phone for the departments in case you were wondering who that unfamiliar voice was.

RE M I N D E R

Transportation is available through the Health Department for medical appointments only and is provided for those individuals who have no other means of transportation.



Human Services Department

By: Lois Rider

The Human Services Department would like to inform the community that Michael Forsythe is no longer employed with the Tribe. If you had any projects or information that he was involved with, you may contact me to work with you.

We would also like to announce the beginning of on-site counseling to begin July 3, 1996. Tracy Pillaro, MSW- will be available from noon until 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday for counseling. If you have been seeing a counselor in Lafayette or other locations, I need you to contact me about it. We will be discontinuing referring out to counselors in the future. We do not want to cut anyone off from someone they have been seeing for a period of time but will not make any new referrals. We hope having a counselor on the Reservation will enable more people to access the services offered. If you would like to come by the office to meet Tracy or to set up an appointment with

her, feel free to either stop by or call the office.

The department has an MSW student, Wanda Smith, doing her internship with us on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Hopefully she and I will be able to get some programs going to involve more of the people in the community. We are going to be working with the A.O.A. and the Education Departments to get some activities set up for our youth and our elders. Again, if there are any areas you would be interested in having classes, contact my office with your suggestions.

Recreation Department



Little League News

The 1996 Chitimacha Braves wrapped up a very successful summer season. They finished the year with a record of 6 wins and 6 losses just two games out of second place. The players were very proud of their record and were in every game until the end. The team and I would like to thank all of the parents and tribal members that came out and

gave their support to our team. The team will also be well represented on this years all star teams. On the 9-10 year old all star team, the Chitimacha Braves will be represented by Nick Persilver. On the 11-12 year old all star team, the Braves have 3 young men competing for the team. The three young men are Byron Toups, Garrett Graham, and Jacob Darden. Congratulations to them and good luck on making the team.

Tee Ball News

The 1996 Braves Tee Ball team had an exciting summer season. The team showed great sportsmanship and all of the kids showed vast improvement from where they started. Several of the 8 year olds said that they can't wait to play little league next year.

Coach's Notes

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the 1996 Summer baseball and softball seasons. Many parents went above and beyond the call of duty and this made my job easier. The help and cooperation of the parents and tribal members made it an enjoyable and worth while experience. I look forward to the 1997 season and hope that more young people and parents become involved in the baseball and softball program.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS (JULY 1996)

FALL APPLICATIONS:

Scholarship applications are on their way to current program participants and to those people who have requested an application. The deadline for the applications is August 1, 1996.

REMEMBER:

1. Do not leave any blanks when completing your application. (write N/A where applicable).
2. To supply a copy of your SAR report which indicates your Financial Aid status. If you have not received your SAR - you must provide documentation showing that you have applied for financial aid.
3. Provide a copy of your Grade report (awards will NOT be issued until grade reports have been received and screened for program compliance).
4. You must have completed ALL Community Pay Back service hours prior to the August 1, 1996 application deadline.

COMMUNITY PAY BACK SERVICES:

The Scholarship Guidelines state that Community Pay Back services must be completed during the semester being funded. The Scholarship Committee has directed that this

guideline be strictly enforced. Therefore, you must complete any outstanding service hours prior to the August 1, 1996 deadline if you want your application to be considered for the Fall semester.

If you have left the program but still owe hours, you will be given until November 1, 1996 to complete your hours. Those of you who owe hours will be contacted by this office.

REMEMBER:

1. All service activities must be approved by this office in order to receive credit for services rendered.
2. You may contact me to schedule days and times to do your hours.

GUIDELINE REVISION:

As you all know, the Program Guidelines are in the process of being revised. This process is one step closer to being completed. A rough draft of the proposed revision has been submitted to the Scholarship Committee members for their consideration and input.

Upon the approval of the Committee, the proposed revision will be submitted to the Tribal Council for their consideration and input. Once the revision has been approved and adopted by the Tribal Council, a copy will be sent to all current Program participants.

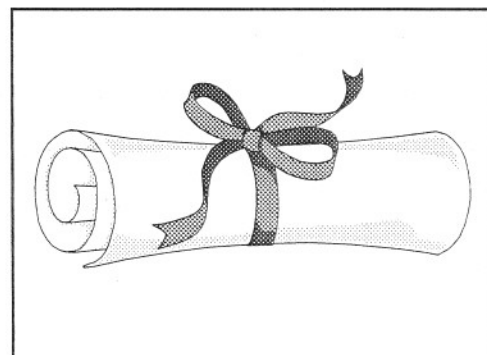
EDUCATION DAY PROGRAM:

On June 8, 1996, the Scholarship Program Participants presented their Community Pay Back projects to the Community. On this day we had 45 Tribal Members and their family and friends visit our displays. Of these visitors, 30 were from out-of-town.

The Program participants presented projects on their career choices, the institutions that they are attending, research on the Tribe, research on Tribal Elders and booklets on personal experiences and advice on attending college.

We want to thank those of you who came out to see what we have been up to and to invite you to ask questions or give your input on the Community Pay Back Program.

To share your ideas, to request an application or to schedule pay back services, you may call Ardith at (318) 923-7000.



HOUSING NEWS:

by: Marilyn Burgess

APPLICATION FOR NEW HOMES:

We have had no word on whether or not we have been funded for more homes. When we receive word from HUD, I will notify everyone through the Newsletter.

NEW COMMISSIONER:

I would like to welcome O'Neil Darden, Jr. as our new Housing Commissioner. O'Neil filled the position vacated by Jackie Junca, who chose not to remain on the Board. I know O'Neil will be an asset to our Board.

COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT:

Danny Darden has again been appointed Chairman of the Housing Board by the Tribal Council. Congratulations, Danny on the great job you and the Board have been doing. As a reminder to everyone, the Housing Board consists of the following members: Danny Darden, Whitney Vilcan, Ricky Marcotte, Rodney Burgess and O'Neil Darden, Jr.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Whitney, Rodney, O'Neil and I have recently returned from our annual National American Indian Housing Council meeting in Washington, D.C. Many important housing issues were discussed and I will keep you abreast on any actions that might affect us.

REGULAR HOUSING MEETINGS:

Our regular housing meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month. Notices are posted at all buildings.

RECERTIFICATIONS:

I will be sending letters for annual recertifications. Please remember you must claim all income and have social security numbers on all persons residing in your home.

JUST A REMINDER!

All house payments are due by the 10th of each month. It is very important to pay on time since this does effect our future funding.

THANKS!

For those participants who keep their homes in great shape and who pay their house notes on time, I would just like to say, "Thanks, and Keep up the Good Work!"

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Our job as Housing Staff and Housing Commissioners is not to evict people from their homes but to provide safe and sanitary housing. If the Mutual Help Occupancy Agreement (MHOA) is followed, you will not be bothered by us. However, we have guidelines that we must follow and if anyone fails to live up to their agreement, we have no choice but to seek legal action. Remember, these are your homes and we want all of our participants to remain in them. It is very important to provide correct and accurate information when applying for a home and to fulfill your MHO agreement after getting a home.

HIP NEWS:

We are nearing completion of repairs using HIP monies. HIP monies are available to bring a substandard home to standard condition and not to perform cosmetic work. If anyone has questions, please feel free to call at 923-9125.

APPLICATIONS:

As always, if you are interested in HIP assistance, come by the office and pick up an application. **ALL APPLICATIONS ARE HANDLED THROUGH THE HOUSING OFFICE AND NOT THE MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER.** Applications are reviewed and ranked according to the guidelines set forth by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. by: Tony Darden

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Bids were accepted on the concrete drives and improvements to the mausoleum and the renovations and additions to the Multi-Purpose Center on Wednesday, June 26, 1996. Bids have been taken under advisement and construction will begin shortly.

SEWER LINES:

I would like to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation during the cleaning and video taping of the sewer lines. At this time, we are reviewing the problem areas with IHS and these areas will soon be repaired.

PARK HUTS:

At this time, the small huts at the park are getting a new face lift.

SUMMER HELP:

I would like to welcome our four summer workers to the Department. The workers are: Shane Moneaux, Bruce Burgess, Bret Burgess and Vorise Lightell. Keep up the good work!

REMINDER:

You can reach me at the Housing-Operations Office at 923-9125 or in case of an emergency after hours, please call 828-6708.

NOTICE

CHITIMACHA ELECTION BOARD

There will be a run-off election on July 13th, 1996 for the following positions:

Secretary-Treasurer
(Elect 1)

Peggy Gaddy
Jimmy Rogers

Councilman
(Elect 1)

John P. Darden, Sr.
Joy V. Johnson

School Board
(Elect 2)

Shelby Bernard
Clifford Burgess
Earline Thomas

Absentee voting will begin on July 1st and will continue through July 12th. Absentee ballots can be obtained at the Multi-Purpose Building during regular office hours (From 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Monday thru Thursday and from 7:30 a.m. thru 11:30 on Friday). After office hours and on weekends, to obtain a ballot, you may call Pat Vilcan at 923-7352 or Pam Thibodeaux at 923-7041.

Run-off Election will be held at the Senior/Youth Center on Saturday July 13th. Polls are open at 8:00 a.m. thru 6:00 p.m.

Thank You
Pat Vilcan, Secretary-Treasurer
Chitimacha Election Board Committee

Presenting the

1996 Miss Chitimacha Nation and Miss Junior Chitimacha Nation (Rescheduled)

Live, on stage in front of everyone

Saturday, July 13, 1996

2:00 p.m.

Chitimacha Tribal School Gym

M.C.: Tricia Mora-Lancon
1994 Miss Chitimacha Nation

Judges: Laura Thompson
Alabama-Coushatta

Cheryl Smith
Jena Band of Choctaw

Earl Barbry, Jr.
Tunica-Biloxi

Honor Song/Dance: Roland Castille and
Little Hawk Singers
(Chitimacha Drum welcomed
to sit-in with Roland and singers)

1996 Pageant Committee:

Josie Hurst, Chairperson

Mary Ann Butaud

Tara Ducote

Shirleen Fitzgerald

Georgia McGee

Tricia Mora-Lancon

Kim Soprano-Walden

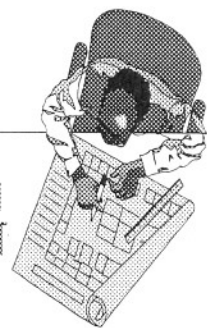
For information, please call the
Cultural and Historical Research
and Development Department at
923-4395 or 923-9923.

Chairman's Notes (Continued from Page 1)

misplaced in tribal trust funds. However, they will allow tribes to now take the money out and invest it themselves with proper justification. Congress is steadily working on relieving their responsibility to tribes from treaties that were signed to protect tribes. The President, like any other elected official is constantly under heavy criticism, but from what I have seen of him during this administration, he has kept his word to Native Americans. He is only one man and Congress has control. He has fought to increase funding to tribes and restore their sovereignty. Also, he is the only president that has had a meeting at the White House with Tribal leaders from across the Nation. The fight with Washington continues and the energy exerted increases day to day.

Appreciation Day - It appeared to me that everyone enjoyed Appreciation Day. The food was great and the games were enjoyed by everyone. I think the highlight was the recognition of our graduates. Over 20 students were recognized for either completing high school, obtaining their G.E.D.'s and graduating from college. My congratulations go out to these people and I hope that we have many more like them this coming year. To me, this shows that the education program we have in place for our people is working and we are now reaping the benefits from it.

PLANNING



PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

By: Patty LeBlanc

The Planning Department is quite busy in the area of grants these days. If funded, these grants will greatly assist in meeting various community needs.

Funding is available on a competitive basis from the Department of Housing & Urban Development for community service projects. We are applying for funding to purchase new fire trucks for the Fire Department and to expand the station to accommodate the new trucks. The new equipment will ensure the best protection for our ever-increasing community.

We are also applying for funding to assist with the law enforcement needs on the Reservation, as well as funds to expand the resource materials available in the library. We'll let you know how we fare in the rating process for these three grants!

The Planning Department is also working on a survey document to be administered in the near future. The purpose of the survey is to gather pertinent data about tribal families. Having current data is vital for the operation and development of programs and services. It not only provides us with a clearer indication of the needs and desires of the community, it also affects our federal funding. For instance, a couple of our recurring programs are based on the number of youth from 0 - 16 years of age, or the number of tribal members in the service area. We, in Planning, always have a need for current data when writing grants. It is the statistics that often determine whether or not a grant is funded. Justification is often needed for population, income levels, educational attainment levels, health status, etc.

So, while filling out the survey may be a bit of an inconvenience, ultimately everyone will benefit if we all work together. We'll be in touch with more news on the survey as things progress.

If you have any questions that we can help with, you can reach Patty LeBlanc, Ted Darden or Chuck Fontenot in the Planning Department at 923-4973.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @ 318 923-4973 to place an Ad

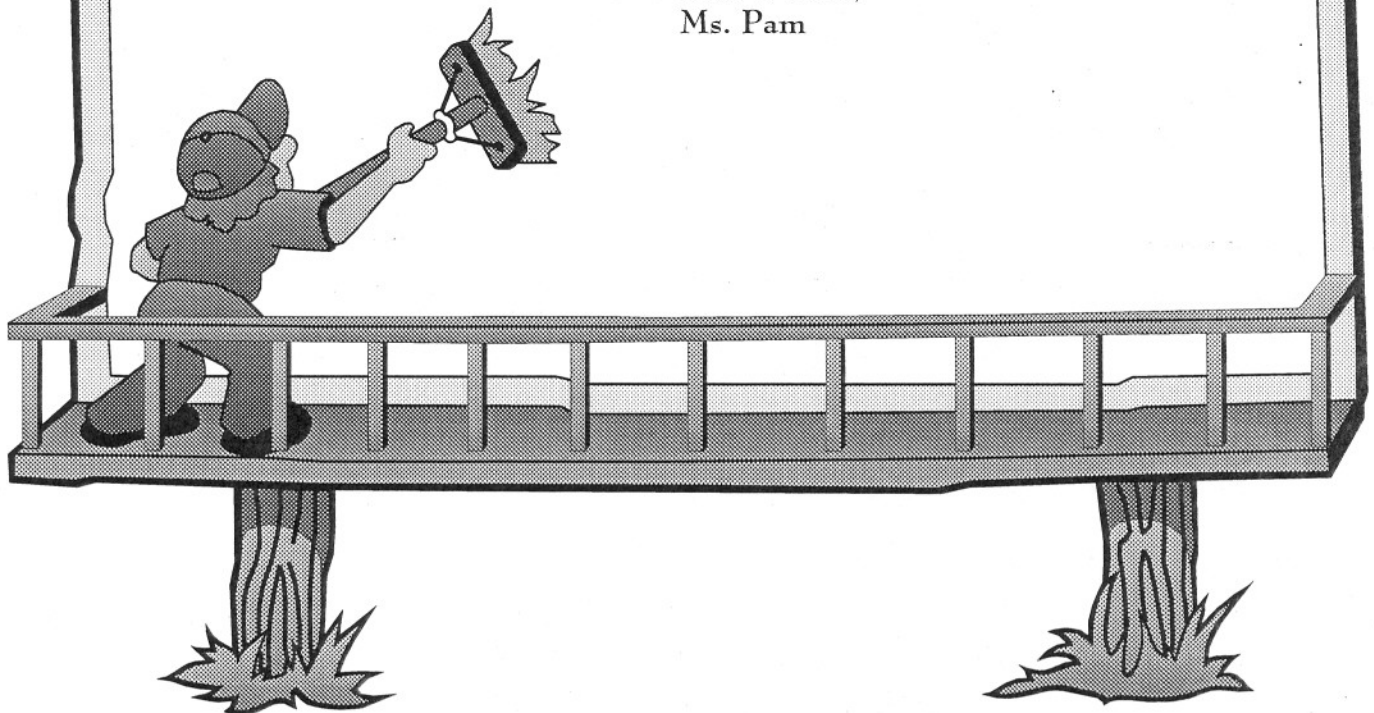
We, the employees of the Chitimacha Tribe, would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Rosalyn McCoy. "Roz" was not only our co-worker, she was our friend.

May she eternally Rest in Peace
6/25/96

Congratulations Chitimacha Braves!!!

The team finished with a 6-6 season this year. We are very proud of all of you. Keep up the good work and team spirit. Special congratulations goes out to our players who made the "All Star Team" this year. In the 9-10 year old category, our player is Nicholas Persilver. Good luck when you play in New Iberia!!! Our 11-12 year olds were Jacob Darden and Byron Toups. Good luck when you play in Lake Charles!!! Although everyone did not make "All Star", in our hearts all of you are "All Stars" to our Tribe. Good luck in the future and I hope I can work with all of you again next year.

Best Wishes,
Ms. Pam



Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton LA 70523
